

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 03746 271624Z

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 EB-11 DOTE-00 AID-20 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /061 W

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R 271526Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8217

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 3746

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, CS, GT, ES, HO

SUBJECT: USED BUSES

REF: STATE 195596

1. COSTA RICA IMPORTED 44 USED BUSES IN THE
CALENDAR YEAR OF 1973 AND THESE IMPORTS ARE
EXPECTED TO CONTINUE AT A SLIGHTLY INCREASED
RATE DURING THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

2. APPLICABLE CUSTOM DUTIES ON NEW AND USED
BUSES ARE COMPUTED AT 22 PERCENT OF CIF PRICES.
THE CHEAPER DELIVERED PRICE OF A USED BUS IS
NORMALLY THE MAJOR CONSIDERATION ENTERING
THIS PURCHASE DECISION. THE RELATIVELY IMMEDIATE
AVAILABILITY OF SPARE PARTS IN THE U.S.
FREQUENTLY ENCOURAGES A U.S. PURCHASE. OPERATING
COST IS VERY OFTEN A SECONDARY CONSIDERATION
AND IS BELIEVED TO BE 5-10 PERCENT ABOVE THE COST OF
OPERATION OF NEW BUSES.

3. FIFTEEN PERCENT IS CONSIDERED TO BE AN
ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF DEPRECIATION FOR ONE YEAR
OLD BUSES AND 20 PERCENT FOR THOSE TWO YEARS OLD. THIS
ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF DEPRECIATION INCREASES
BY 10 PERCENT FOR EACH YEAR OF AGE FROM 2-5 YEARS.
PRESENTLY, NO NATIONAL AGREEMENTS EXIST THAT WOULD
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PAGE 02 SAN JO 03746 271624Z

AFFECT THE SHIPMENT OF BUSES TO COSTA RICA.

4. COSTA RICAN 1973 IMPORTS OF USED BUSES ARE
SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

UNITS	MODEL YEAR	BRANDS	PASSENGER CAPACITY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
1	1963	CHEVROLET	54	USA
1	1966	INTERNATIONAL	50	USA
1	1967	CHEVROLET	44	USA
1	1967	GMC	48	USA
1	1967	MERCEDEZ BENZ	48	W. GERMANY
1	1968	GMC	44	USA
1	1969	GMC	44	USA
1	1969	FORD	38	USA
1	1970	INTERNATIONAL	48	USA
1	1970	FORD	38	USA
8	1972	BEDFORD	52	ENGLAND
4	1972	VOLVO	67	SWEDEN
1	1972	PEGASO	22	SPAIN
5	1972	SEDAN	53	ENGLAND
4	1972	GMC	42	USA
1	1972	MERCEDES BENZ	64	W.GERMANY
5	1972	INTERNATIONAL	53	USA
6	1972	SULTANA	40	MEXICO

44

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